

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rep. Sam Farr (D-Carmel) has secured \$825,000 to fund five programs in the Central Coast. The funds are included in the House Appropriations bill that funds the U.S. Departments of Labor, Education and Health and Human Services. It will be voted on by the full House of Representatives later this month.

"These programs are integral to the safety, education and health of our communities and I'm proud to have a hand in securing the funds," Rep. Farr said. "These programs will have a positive effect on so many residents of the Central Coast."

Gang prevention:

- \$350,000 will go to the Silver Star Gang Prevention and Intervention program, which provides and coordinates services to prevent and reduce juvenile crime in Monterey County. Silver Star, which began in 2005, offers a full range of services to combat juvenile delinquency.

Healthy communities:

- The Healthy Eating Lifestyle Principles program will receive \$175,000. The program aims to replace junk food in vending machines at Salinas Valley schools with fresh fruits and vegetables, a strategy identified as key in fighting childhood obesity and teaching healthy eating habits.
- \$125,000 will go to the Natividad Medical Center for implementation of a comprehensive Latino Diabetes Care Management Initiative designed to reduce complications resulting from poor disease management as well as the costs associated with those complications.

Oceans:

- The Monterey Bay Aquarium will receive \$75,000 for Mar Y Campo: Partners for Conservation, a program designed to bring ocean science to young native Spanish speakers while they are learning English. The funds will help train educators from the underserved Latino community of the Watsonville-Parajo Valley school districts.
- The O'Neill Sea Odyssey will receive \$100,000 for programs dedicated to serving low- to

moderate-income youth with free, hands-on, ocean-based, science and environmental education and stewardship program. Funds will go toward classes on a 65-foot catamaran sailing Monterey Bay and a shore-side education center.

"For years the administration has taken the lead in gutting our domestic priorities, leaving far too many important programs underfunded," said Rep. Farr. "This is a large step by the Democratic Party to reverse that trend and put our taxpayer dollars where they can most help our nation."

The Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill will be voted on by the full House later this month. For more information on these programs or the appropriations process, contact Tom Mentzer at 202-225-2861 or e-mail tom.mentzer@mail.house.gov.

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